
Arizona Methamphetamine Initiative Coalitions

Quarterly Report Summary
March 2008



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Prepared for:
The Governor's Office for Children, Youth and Families
Division for Substance Abuse Policy
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ANTI-METH INITIATIVE COALITIONS QUARTERLY REPORT SUMMARY

In April 2007, Anti-Meth Initiative grantees who were funded for Phase I were asked to respond to a Request for Grant Application (RFGA) in order to receive Phase II funding. The Anti-Meth Initiative grantees that received Phase II funding were to accomplish the following:

- Utilize the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) model to complete activities
- Describe the coalition's plans for developing or implementing a strategic plan based on their community assessment results
- Describe how the coalition's strategic plan will enhance the community's prevention infrastructure
- Inclusion of cultural competency in planning and implementation
- The planned use of environmental and other strategies to address the targeted substance use issues of the community
- Complete a work plan that included: problem statement, environmental strategy identified, goal to address the problem statement, and objective to address this goal
- Complete a time line of key activities taking place within this grant period

Beginning with Quarter 2 (July, August, September 2007) Anti-Meth Initiative grantees were required to submit quarterly reports to the Governor's Office for Children Youth and Families (GOCYF). Quarterly reports were submitted by Anti-Meth Initiative Coalitions for Quarter 2 (covering July, August, September 2007) and Quarter 3 (covering October, November, December 2007). A total of 15 quarterly reports were received out of the 17 contracted coalitions. The following is a brief summary of quarterly report information collected from the coalitions.

Coalition Activities

Coalitions were asked to identify from a list of activities, the types of activities that were conducted by the coalition to develop or maintain their coalition. Information was submitted for the following activities:

Held coalition meetings: 14 out of 15 coalitions
Created coalition subcommittees: 8 out of 15 coalitions
Held a community forum: 3 out of 15 coalitions
Attended training (s): 9 out of 15 coalitions
Attended (had a table at) a community event: 11 out of 15 coalitions
Expanded meeting locations: 6 out of 15 coalitions
Hired more staff: 2 out of 15 coalitions
Partnered with local agency: 13 out of 15 coalitions
New project manager hired: 1 out of 15 coalitions
New coalition members recruited: 12 out of 15 coalitions
Existing member resigned: 3 out of 15 coalitions
Identified coalition leader(s): 7 out of 15 coalitions
Better access to data sources: 9 out of 15 coalitions

Coalition Capacity Building

Coalitions were asked to report on coalition capacity activities that were conducted to improve the ability of their coalition to deliver substance abuse prevention services, such as improving organizational resources; improving awareness about substance abuse problems; building new relationships, or strengthening existing relationships among coalitions, groups, and organizations involved in substance abuse prevention; and working to ensure intervention activities and outcomes continue after Anti-Meth Initiative funding ends. The following activities were reported by coalitions:

Identified or secured physical space: 13 out of 15 coalitions

Trained staff: 6 out of 15 coalitions

Identified or secured physical space: 4 out of 15 coalitions

Coordinated or improved technical resources: 11 out of 15 coalitions

Coordinated data collection: 7 out of 15 coalitions

Coalitions were also asked to report on their work in raising awareness in the community of substance use or abuse problems; with 15 out of the 15 coalitions indicating they worked to raise awareness in the community of substance use or abuse problems by conducting the following activities:

Media activities (TV, radio, newspaper ads, or public service announcements): 12 out of 15 coalitions

Internet activities (listservs, websites, or mass emails to targeted populations): 10 out of 15 coalitions

Direct mailings: 3 out of 15 coalitions

Face-to-face outreach (health fairs, classroom visits, or other community events, etc.): 15 out of 15 coalitions.

In addition to the above listed activities, some coalitions reported further on specific activities conducted to raise awareness:

Mohave County - We are working on links to the county and a local anti meth website

Northeast Valley - In August 2007, the coalition sent out a direct mailing with the 2007 Progress Report outlining successes in Phase I as well as a summary of the Coalition's strategic plan.

Pinal County - Distributed a 20 page meth awareness insert throughout all of western Pinal County via the Casa Grande Valley Newspaper. Also distributed meth awareness and education information to jail detainees, including treatment referral resources, via Casa Grande Alliance meth booklets.

Santa Cruz County - Participated in development of Anti-Meth media campaign and promotional materials developed by community members at Weed & Seed /Anti-Meth Prevention through the Arts Design and Learning Center.

Cultural Competency

Coalitions were asked to report on any cultural competency activities that were conducted such as training received, meetings conducted in a language other than English, or distributing materials in a language other than English. Of the 15 coalitions who submitted quarterly reports, four stated they had conducted “any” cultural competency activities, two indicated they had conducted coalition meetings in a language other than English, and eight stated they distributed materials in a language other than English.

Coalition Membership

Quarterly reports asked coalitions to report on coalition membership representation from a list of sectors provided. Coalitions indicated they had members from the following sectors:

Youth: 7 out of 15 coalitions
Parent/Family/Caregiver: 12 out of 15 coalitions
Business: 13 out of 15 coalitions
Media: 9 out of 15 coalitions
School Group: 12 out of 15 coalitions
Youth Serving Group: 11 out of 15
Law Enforcement: 14 out of 15 coalitions
Local/State Court: 12 out of 15 coalitions
Department of Justice: 7 out of 15 coalitions
Local/State Jails or Prison: 10 out of 15 coalitions
Faith-based Organization: 11 out of 15 coalitions
Civic or Volunteer Organization: 14 out of 15 coalitions
Health Care Professional: 12 out of 15 coalitions
State Governmental Agency: 11 out of 15 coalitions
Tribal: 7 out of 15 coalitions

Frequency of Meetings and Attendance

Coalitions were also asked to report on meetings held by the coalition or any subcommittee (if applicable) and to report on the meeting length and attendance. On average, coalitions held meetings three to four times a quarter, with some coalition subcommittees meeting more frequently than the general coalition. The length of the meetings ranged from one-and-a-half hour to two hours, with an average of 1.69 or a little over an hour and a half. Attendance at coalition meetings ranged from three to 17 people with the average attendance of 9.5.

Successes

In addition to the information collected above, coalitions are given the opportunity to report on successes they have encountered. The following is a list of successes reported:

Apache County - Attendance at the Navajo County Summit has stimulated interests in our community members to organize an Apache County Summit in order to develop a more detailed and all-inclusive plan for our communities.

Cochise County - Our support of the AZ Meth Project was a great success—we conducted activities at several county-level Back to School Fairs. More than 1,500 local community members attended these events. Many local students and families signed the AZ Meth Project Banner/Quilt. These items were sent to Governor's Office contacts. These efforts were covered in local press outlets.

Gila County - The Coalition is constantly being asked to provide presentations throughout the community to businesses, government agencies, schools, tribal groups, and special interest/civic groups. This appears to be the greatest activity for the Coalition and several members provide these presentations based on the specific request being made (i.e., law enforcement emphasis, CPS emphasis, treatment/recovery emphasis, school emphasis, prevention, etc.)

Graham County - Coalition's support of school and community partners was the overarching success during the reporting period. This support helps to ensure successful Red Ribbon Week activities, Meth Awareness Day, tobacco cessation and substance abuse prevention education session in each school district as well as outreach and support as needed via our speaker's bureau and SEABHS staff activities. Our support of the AZ Meth Project was a great success—we conducted activities at several county-level events including Fishing Derby, ongoing summer activities for youth in Graham County Communities including Safford, Thatcher, Pima, and Bylas. The coalition also had good success in partnering with local school districts in order to plan activities to support Red Ribbon Week events throughout our county.

Greenlee County - Obtaining additional Spanish-language resources was a success. The Spanish-speaking population in Greenlee County may not be somewhat nominal based on state and county data; however, the Task Force still feels that it's important to provide relevant materials to the community, regardless of language barriers. In addition, the Eastern Arizona College athletic department presentation was a success as it opened a dialogue with college administrators around how they can be involved as partners and/or stakeholders in substance abuse prevention and education in Greenlee County. In all, the Task Force Coordinator had face-to-face contact with over 600 students, between 3rd and 12th grades.

Hopi Meth Community Coalition - Sufficient progress during the previous quarters in facilitating interest and participation across a wide spectrum of Hopi members across the Hopi Reservation has laid the foundation for renewed effort. Recent individual interviews with a cross-section of Hopi Tribal members denotes strong visualization and word of mouth interest for the coalition to enroll new members and to address Meth and other substance abuse problems in the community.

La Paz (AMPEC) - Held a coalition meeting in December of 2007 and directly addressed the issue of formalization and establishment. AMPEC worked with La Paz County throughout December and January in the development and publication of an RFP for a prevention/education contractor to carry out the scope of work described in La Paz County's Phase II grant.

Meth Free Alliance – Pima County - Began work with the Pima County Sheriff's Department to rid existing criminal elements from the Flowing Wells Neighborhood Association and Community Coalition area to begin work for our second Meth Free Alliance neighborhood intervention.

Northeast Valley - At September 2007 meeting, the coalition approved adding four new members to the Steering Committee: Marla Abramowitz (Scottsdale Unified School District), Katie Decker (Town of

Fountain Hills), Dr. Don Fowls (Paradise Valley resident and business owner), and Craig Thomas (Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community). The coalition hosted two youth forums in partnership with Cox Communications in October and November with 750 students in attendance. The Coalition also hosted two document shredding events in Scottsdale and Fountain Hills that attracted 550 participants.

Pinal County - Review of various systems continued : Juvenile Court Services and Child Protective Services. Members increased their knowledge and understanding of how these systems handle meth involved cases. Worked with detention center to get treatment phone numbers placed onto a 'free call' list within the jail phone system.

Santa Cruz County – In September 2007 attended the Arizona Substance Abuse Coalition Forum in Sedona, Arizona. In October 2007 the Santa Cruz County Metro Task Force coordinated with the Rio Rico High School and brought the Compass Health Care's C.A.S.T. (Clean and Sober Theater) for two performances on the same day. The target audience was for approximately 1,200 students which were split up into the two performances. However, due to the amount of students we were only able to provide the performance to 600 students. The C.A.S.T. is a youth substance abuse prevention and peer education program designed to motivate teens and youth to make educated choices about drug and alcohol use. The same performances are being offered to other schools throughout the county. Also in October, the Santa Cruz County Metro Task Force, JCNTTF and D.E.A. were at the Boy's & Girl's Club for a drug/meth awareness presentation.

During the month of November and Meth Week the Santa Cruz County Metro Task Force concentrated on producing the Santa Cruz County Metro Task Force "Crossing The Line" (The Dangers of Methamphetamine). The students who participated in making the movie are Rio Rico Students and most of whom are Seniors and will be graduating in 2008. The movie was directed, edited, and photos and recordings were done by Jesse Medina, a senior of the Rio Rico High School. The movie was based on the Movie Making Process of The Northern Lights; Shining the Light on the Meth-edemic by TAPROOT INC. In December the movie was also entered in the TAPROOT INC. Contest.

Also during the month of November and December the Santa Cruz County Metro Task Force also, contacted the schools in Santa Cruz County and invited them to participate in the METH NOT EVEN ONCE, poster contest which was sponsored by the Arizona Attorney General Terry Goddard and the Meth Project. We were able to submit two entries.

Yavapai County - Successes included: 1) the completion and acceptance by the general coalition of the Principles document, 2) drafting a training calendar for 11 trainings that support the best practices outlined in the Principle document, 3) partnering with various organizations for trainings, and 4) the MATRIX program will be piloting the adolescent program at West Yavapai Guidance Clinic. The Verde Valley Steering Committee is working on a plan for increased participation in the coalition activities by the Yavapai Apache tribe. The coalition had 625 hits to its website in November 2007. The coalition staff was interviewed by an ASU graduate student, in conjunction with the St. Luke's Health Initiative, to find out about the process we used to engage community members. The Principles document will be presented at a Judges' meeting in January 2008. Two trainings on co-occurring disorders (approximately 75 participants) and one on motivational interviewing (15 participants) were completed this quarter.

Yuma County – In November 2007 held a Meth Summit with Weed & Seed Neighborhoods where 75 persons attended. During these two quarters we served a minimum of 1,261 persons – providing information, handouts, helping hands, and community events.

Summary

A total of 15 coalitions submitted quarterly report information for the period of July – December 2007. All of the coalitions conducted activities to develop or maintain their coalition; the majority of which focused their efforts on conducting meetings, partnering with local agencies, and attending or having a table at a community event. In addition, coalitions built capacity in their local communities by identifying or securing physical space and coordinating or improving their technical resources.

All of the coalitions indicated they had conducted activities in their communities to raise awareness of substance use or abuse problems. The most common activities that were reported include: face-to-face outreach, media activities, and internet activities. Additionally, eight of the coalitions indicated they had distributed materials in a language other than English.

Coalition sector representation varies by coalition however, 14 out of the 15 coalitions stated they have members from law enforcement and civic/volunteer organizations on their coalition. Coalitions also have similar representation from the business, health care, schools, and local/state court sectors.

During this reporting period, coalitions indicated they have experienced many successes surrounding their Anti-Methamphetamine efforts. Some of those successes include: interest in the coalition by the community of which they serve, media coverage, and creating partnerships with other organizations to address local methamphetamine issues.